

Provost Nellis to be 17th president of University of Idaho

By Tim Schrag


KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Duane Nellis, K-State provost and senior vice president, will be the 17th president of the University of Idaho. His appointment was announced Wednesday morning by the Idaho State Board of Education.

In March, Nellis declined an offer to be the president of the University of Idaho. UI has been searching for a president since July 2008. Nellis was named one of five finalists for the position in January and visited

the campus in early February. The offer came out of a unanimous vote in an open meeting, held via telephone at the UI campus.

"I am so pleased," said Paul Agidius, president of the Idaho State Board of Education, in a press release. "I have no doubt in my mind that we found the absolute best person. Dr. Nellis brings so much to this campus, this community and to this state."



Nellis

Nellis will take over as UI president on July 1. His annual salary will be \$335,000. Of that amount, \$298,000 will come from the State of Idaho, and the remaining \$37,000 will come from an unrestricted gift from the University of Idaho Foundation to the university to use as presidential compensation, according to the press release.

Nellis will also receive a three-year contract; rank of full-tenure professor at UI; medical, dental, vision and life insurance benefits; use of on-campus residence; and a \$7,200 annual automobile allowance.

"I think he was an absolutely terrific provost for Kansas State, and he will be an outstanding president for the University of Idaho," said Chuck Reagan, associate to the president.

Nellis began his career at K-State as an assistant professor of geography, was promoted to professor and served as head of the department before becoming senior associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Nellis was dean of the Eberly College of Arts

See NELLIS, Page 7

Texas sues Homeland Security over NBAF

By Jacie Noel

KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

A group of Texas research facilities said Wednesday they plan to sue the Department of Homeland Security concerning Kansas winning the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility.

The lawsuit, filed by the Texas Biological and Agro-Defense Consortium, seeks to overturn the DHS decision and force the department to reconsider San Antonio for the biosecurity lab. It will also cause further work on the Manhattan site to be stopped.

See NBAF, Page 7

Man reports attack after evening walk

By Frank Male

KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

An unknown suspect attempted to mug a Manhattan man at 5:45 p.m. Tuesday, according to a Riley County Police report.

Joseph Rittenhouse, 36, left his residence in the 1000 block of Garden Way for a walk when the suspect came up from behind and allegedly hit him in the back, repeatedly, demanding his wallet. After Rittenhouse showed he did not have a wallet, the suspect fled, said RCPD Lt. Kurt Moldrup.

The suspect was described as 6 feet, 3-4 inches, 250 pounds, in his 20s, with long, curly black hair pulled into a ponytail and a beard. He was wearing jeans and a T-shirt. No arrests have been made.

CAR ACCIDENT SENDS 1 TO HOSPITAL

A collision at Hays and McCall roads sent one Manhattan resident to Mercy Regional Health Center for cuts to the left arm and left side pains, according to a report.

Hawley Hunnel, 34, was hospitalized after her 1999 Toyota Land Cruiser was allegedly struck in the side by a 1996 Chevrolet Cavalier driven by Rosetta Miller, 31, of Ogden, Kan., as Hunnel drove across the street from one private driveway to another.

Hunnel was cited for failure to yield the right of way.



Photos by Nathaniel LaRue | COLLEGIAN

People attending the Earth Day activities Wednesday in Bosco Student Plaza were encouraged to sign a banner to indicate their intentions to live greener lives, whether through recycling more, using less energy or various other means.

Earth Day fair highlights conservation efforts

By Rico van Buskirk

KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

More than a dozen organizations and hundreds of students gathered Wednesday in Bosco Student Plaza to celebrate Earth Day.

The Earth Day fair brought together people with a mutual interest in environmentalism and provided an opportunity to educate other students on the importance of environmentalism, said Ben Champion, K-State director of sustainability.

"It was a great atmosphere of celebration and a collection of informative groups," he said. "Earth is the only home we have, and [environmentalism] is perhaps the most important conversation to have."

In an effort to conserve energy, Dave Sampson, a local metal fabricator, brought a wind turbine and a couple solar panels to power the microphones and speakers used for public announcements during the celebration.

"Everyone I talked to seemed really positive," said Robert Dunn, senior in English, of the alternative power source. "Even if [people] aren't up on environmental issues, they seemed to learn a lot of stuff."

Dunn played an upright bass to the




Robert Dunn, senior in English, watches puppet theater by Tim Sidorfsky, senior in physical sciences, and Kyle Van Horn, junior in modern languages. All are members of Students for Environmental Action, the organization which helped put on and organize the activities for Earth Day in Bosco Student Plaza on Wednesday.

See EARTHDAY, Page 7

Journalist urges audience to work toward change

Jabari Asim

editor-in-chief of The Crisis magazine, a journal published by the NAACP, spoke in the K-State Student Union Little Theatre on "What Obama Means" for culture, politics and the future as part of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity



Lisle Alderton

COLLEGIAN

By Sheila Ellis

KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

President Barack Obama won America's vote with a promise of change. However, this change Obama preaches cannot happen without hard work from Americans, author and journalist Jabari Asim said.

Asim, editor-in-chief of The Crisis, the official magazine of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and author of the book "What Obama Means," spoke Wednesday

evening in the K-State Student Union Little Theatre as part of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Week.

Asim urged dozens of K-State students and faculty to work together and asked rhetorical questions causing the audience to rethink their understanding of "real change."

"This is a time of goosebumps and chills," Asim said. "This is the recognition that indeed nothing is impossible."

He said our society's rate of change is unprecedented.

"It can now only take five

years for a black man to go from a state senator to the first black president of the United States," he said.

Though America electing its first black president is a big step, Asim argued that the country's success "depends on how we adjust to the speed of change."

"Never in history have we experienced the kind of extraordinary, life-changing speed as we are experiencing now," he said.

He referred to Intel co-

See ASIM, Page 7



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ACROSS

1 Mid-May honorees

5 Ref

8 Unadulterated

12 Grand story

13 D.C. type

14 Mimicked

15 Crosby, Stills and —

16 Ferrigno or Costello

17 Second-hand

18 Occurring last month

20 With tenderness

22 Vast expanse

23 Nipper's co.

24 Start of something big?

27 Lisa, to Marge

32 Tear

33 Kreskin's claim

34 Ostrich's kin

35 Puzzle

38 Formerly, formerly

39 Whatever amount

40 Hostel

42 "Family Feud" prelim

45 Torrential rainstorm

49 Destroy

50 Sapporo sash

52 Suitor

53 Sean

54 Penn title role

54 Relatives

55 Reply to "Shall we?"

56 Eyelid woe

57 See 24-Across

58 Other-wise

DOWN

1 Carte

2 October stone

3 Atomizer output

4 Division

5 Transferred files

6 Cattle call?

7 Advertise

8 Potbelly

9 Buffalo resident, e.g.

10 Fishing rod

11 Whirlpool

21 Truly Work unit

24 Sphere

25 Compete

26 In the ascendant

28 Enzyme suffix

29 Riot

30 Type squares

31 Same old same-old

36 Bring about

37 Caustic solution

38 Allow to happen

41 007's doctor foe

42 Totals

43 Condo, e.g.

44 Oxen's joiner

46 Boat's bottom

47 Packs away

48 Strategem

51 Ginormous

Solution time: 25 mins.

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Yesterday's answer 4-23

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4-23

CRYPTOQUIP

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T O K O R J Q Z S R F J Z Y S T J P O M

M O V F J L Z Y E G L P L M B

NGOSFZ: "RJYLJMZ OROKOM."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A FAMED ANCIENT GREEK POET IS BEHAVING VERY CHILDISHLY, I RECKON SHE'S BEING SAPPHO-MORIC.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals N

YOU SUCK | BY NOLAN FABRICIUS AND JEFF BROWN

YOU.SUCK.COMIC@GMAIL.COM

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

GETTING RID OF SOME JUNK FROM THE GARAGE. WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

ARE YOU... BURNING AN OLD CAR BATTERY?!

AND SOME STYROFOAM PACKING PEANUTS.

WHY?!

WHAT ELSE DO YOU EXPECT ME TO DO WITH THEM? IT'S NOT LIKE I EVER MAIL ANYTHING TO ANYONE...

HOW CAN YOU DO SOMETHING SO THOUGHTLESS RIGHT AFTER EARTH DAY?!

YOU SERIOUSLY CAN'T EXPECT ME TO CARE ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT EVERY SINGLE DAY? IF I DID THAT, THE GOOD FEELINGS I GET FROM RECYCLING AND PICKING UP TRASH ONCE A YEAR WOULD LOSE THEIR NOVELTY.

PLUS, I HAVE YET TO FULFILL MY VOW OF REVENGE AGAINST MOTHER NATURE...

WHAT? WHY?!

SHE KNOWS WHAT SHE DID...

NOW - STOP TALKING AND HELP EMPTY THESE CANS OF SPRAY PAINT SO THEY DON'T EXPLODE WHEN WE THROW THEM ON THE FIRE.

THEN I'VE GOT SOME USED OIL I NEED TO TAKE DOWN TO THE BEACH IF YOU'D LIKE TO COME...

THE PLANNER

Sign up for intramural 4-on-4 co-rec sand volleyball in the administrative office at Peters Recreation Complex. The entry deadline is today. The cost to sign up is \$1 per person plus tax. The tournament will be Sunday. For more information, go online to www.recservices.k-state.edu.

The Graduate School announces the final oral defense of the doctoral dissertation of Laurie Cleavinger at 11:30 a.m. today in Bluemont 257. The thesis topic is "The Effects of Professional Development on Instructional Strategies and the Resulting Influences on Student Learning for a Physics Curriculum."

The Graduate School announces the final oral defense of the doctoral dissertation of Camille Lafleur at 2:30 p.m. today in Campus Creek Complex Room 214. The thesis topic is "Mothers' Reactions to Disclosures of Sibling Sexual Abuse."

The Graduate School announces the final oral defense of the doctoral dissertation of Jah-Ra'El Burrell at 11 a.m. Friday in Justin 254. The thesis topic is "Hegemonic Influences Among Racial and Ethnic Families in America."

The Graduate School announces the final oral defense of the doctoral dissertation of Dmytro Shklyarov at 12:30 p.m. Friday in Cardwell 131. The thesis topic is "Hirzebruch-Riemann-Roch Theorem for DG Algebras."

The Graduate School announces the final oral defense of the doctoral dissertation of Alexey Ferapontov at 1:30 p.m. Friday in Cardwell 119. The thesis topic is "Measurements and Searches for New Physics in Diboson Processes with the D0 Detector."

The Graduate School announces the final oral defense of the doctoral dissertation of Gerald Deehan Jr. at 1:30 p.m. Friday in Bluemont 487. The thesis topic is "The Effect of Differential Rearing Conditions on the Consumption of and Operant Responding for Ethanol in the Indiana University Selectively Bred Alcohol-Preferring and -Non-Preferring Rat Lines."

The Graduate School announces the final oral defense of the doctoral dissertation of Tiffany Powell at 1 p.m. Monday in Bluemont 368. The thesis topic is "An Exploration of Inservice Teachers' Implementation of Culturally Responsive Teaching Methods in Algebra with African American Students."

The Graduate School announces the final oral defense of the doctoral dissertation of Rommel Sulabo at 1 p.m. Monday in Weber 146. The thesis topic is "Influence of Creep Feeding on Individual Consumption Characteristics and Growth Performance of Neonatal and Weanling Pigs."

The Graduate School announces the final oral defense of the doctoral dissertation of Neelam Khan at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday in Cardwell 119. The thesis topic is "Optical, Structural and Transport Properties of InN Alloys Grown by Metalorganic Chemical Vapor Deposition."


The Graduate School announces the final oral defense of the doctoral dissertation of Hassan Zamat at 1 p.m. Tuesday in the Electrical Engineering Conference Room. The thesis topic is "Practical Implementation of Sensing Receiver in Cognitive Radios."

Alpha Kappa Psi presents the 2009 Business After Hours, a dining etiquette workshop. It will be at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the K-State Student Union Ballroom. Three guest speakers will cover topics such as dining etiquette, body language and professional dress in business settings. There will also be door prizes, desserts and refreshments. The cost is \$5 at the door.


The Planner is the Collegian's bulletin board service. To place an item in the Planner, stop by Kedzie 116 or e-mail news editor Ann Conrad at news@spub.ksu.edu by 11 a.m. two days before it is to run. Some items might not appear because of space constraints but are guaranteed to appear on the day of the activity.

FOTOFOURUM PIC OF THE WEEK

Michael Newth, sophomore in mass communications, submitted this photo to the FotoFourum. This alley photo was chosen because it has great perspective, and the dramatic shadows add contrast.



DAILY BLOTTER



To view the daily arrest report from the Riley County Police Department, go to the Collegian Web site, kstatecollegian.com.

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

If you see something that should be corrected or clarified, call news editor Ann Conrad at 785-532-6556 or e-mail news@spub.ksu.edu.

KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

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Alpha Xi Delta presents Xi Man 2009

When: Thursday, April 23rd, 2009

Where: Sunset Zoo at 7pm

What: Fraternity men compete in formal wear, talent and interview to become Xi Man for the next year.

Entry is free with a t-shirt, \$3 without.

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Faculty Senate Committee on University Planning (FSCOUP) Forum on Campus Safety: Discussing New Measures

Campus safety is a major issue across the United States at universities and colleges. The purpose of this forum is to have an open dialogue about implementation of new safety measures initiated the past year. This is your opportunity as well to share concerns, needs, and vision for campus safety at K-State.

Please join us: Thursday, April 23, 2009 1:30 p.m. Big 12 Room, K-State Student Union

Sponsored by FSCOUP and the Campus Crisis Management Committee

Those in attendance to answer questions and share information will be: Heather Reed: Director of Student Life Ronnie Grice: Assistant Vice President – University Police and Public Safety Thomas Rawson: Senior Advisor – Office of Administration and Finance Stephen Broccolo: Emergency Management Coordinator

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Researchers say community support key for active commuting

By Katherine Wartell
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

K-State researchers hope that despite the many barriers to active commuting, results of a study will help influence public policy and future construction in Manhattan, and residents will be encouraged to walk and bike around the city.

The study, conducted by the K-State Physical Activity and Public Health Lab, aimed to understand attitudes about active commuting as well as the major obstacles that keep people from either walking or biking to their destinations.

The research was initiated by Pam Wittman, senior in kinesiology, and began in spring 2008 when Wittman and Melissa Bopp, assistant professor of kinesiology, administered two online surveys to the K-State campus and the Manhattan community.

They were later assisted in their research by Andy Kaczynski, assistant professor of kinesiology.

About 800 K-State students, faculty members and staff and 428 Manhattan residents answered the surveys. Participants were asked about their physical activity levels, driving, health, work habits and reasons for or against active commuting.

The researchers found that about 5 percent of students routinely biked while 15 percent routinely walked to campus. However, Wittman said the group's main finding was that distance to campus is the major factor for most people in deciding whether to actively commute or not.

According to the study, individuals living within a 20-minute walk or bike ride to campus were twice as likely to walk and 17 times more likely to bike to campus than individuals living farther away.

Survey results also indicated that Manhattan residents walk or bike to and from work about one time a week, while they drive to and from work about nine times a week.

Time constraints, bad weather, the need to travel to other places in addition to work or campus and safety concerns about traffic are key barriers that keep people from practicing active commuting, according to the surveys.

Both Wittman and Kaczynski stressed the importance of incorporating physical activity into people's daily lives. Kaczynski said at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity every day, which can be accomplished in 10-minute spurts, is ideal.

"Active commuting is a way to build physical activity into your daily routine,"



Dani Wellemeyer, graduate student in communication studies, rides her bike through campus on her way home Wednesday. While Wellemeyer rides her bike year-round on short trips, she said she plans to use it more consistently now that the weather is getting warmer.

he said. "You can get 10 minutes in on a walk across campus, for instance."

Wittman also cited the health benefits of active commuting, which include lowering the risk of cardiovascular heart disease.

Wittman said she bikes to school every day and loves the freedom it provides her.

"I'm so impatient," she said. "I don't like waiting in cars."

Wittman also said riding her bike gives her a sense of being a close-knit member of the community – a positive social benefit for active commuting.

Another student who regularly commutes using her bicycle is Laura Stockmoe, senior in family studies and human services and pre-medicine.

Stockmoe said she does not have a car, so she uses her bicycle to go to school and run errands.

"I bike about 25 miles per day," Stockmoe said. "I bike everywhere, as long as it's above 40 degrees."

To help encourage active commuting,

Kaczynski, who offers a course every fall on the built environment and physical activity, said support must come from the surrounding community.

"You don't see enough [sidewalks] in Manhattan," he said, "and you have to traverse giant streets to get to Wal-Mart or Target."

Kaczynski also said he thinks the crosswalks on campus are great, but on busy street corners, more countdown timers for pedestrians would be helpful. He also suggested adding bike lanes on bigger streets like Anderson and Bluemont avenues by decreasing the width of the roads to make room for bikes. During the day, he said it is also a possibility to close roads that run through campus to cars.

"A lot of cities like Manhattan give priority to driving," he said. "But when opportunities present themselves, we need to take into account other kinds of transportation."

Stockmoe said she also thinks there could be more bicycle trails in Manhattan.

"There are towns that have more bike trails than actual streets, but that is definitely not the case here," she said.

Kaczynski said he hopes the survey results encourage Manhattan companies to promote active commuting by providing resources like showers for employees who choose to walk or bike.

Wittman suggested college students look for houses close to their daily destinations.

For Wittman, it is important that active commuting becomes a viable transportation choice, she said.

Kaczynski and Wittman both said they would like their research to influence future public policy and construction so there is better connectivity around the city.

K-State UFM is offering the course "Bicycling for Transportation, Fitness and Fun" for those interested in learning more about active commuting. The first session begins April 29.

For more information, go to <https://ufmprograms.org>.

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Failing fast



Illustration by Christy Klein | COLLEGIAN

Education system lacks guidelines to provide success for students



BOBBY GOMEZ

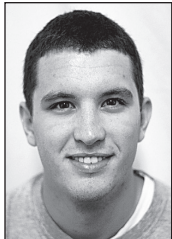
America is failing. In the shadows of capitol buildings and corrupt businesses lies this country's greatest injustice. The America's Promise Alliance, a nonprofit group that works to reduce the nation's high school dropout rate, recently released its 2009 report, "Closing the Graduation Gap." The report supports the idea that one of the greatest variables to academic success is not one's intelligence or work ethic but rather one's residential address. The average high school graduation rate in the nation's 50 largest cities is 53 percent, compared to 71 percent in the suburbs. Only 54.5 percent of the students attending Wichita Public Schools will graduate, and an even lower percentage of students attending Kansas City Public Schools will, at 53.5 percent. The study continued to show that "nearly one

in three U.S. high school students fails to graduate with a diploma." It went on to state, "Approximately 1.2 million students drop out each year – averaging 7,000 every school day or one every 26 seconds." The federal government has assumed an increasingly larger role in what were once policy decisions agreed upon by states and local government – a trend that is likely to continue. No Child Left Behind is as unmistakable as it is controversial. The law proclaims that by 2014 every American student will be 100-percent proficient in math and reading. Such a law is similar to asking that law enforcement end all crime. It is an idyllic and unreachable goal. Teachers were hopeful when President Barack Obama moved into the White House on a campaign of change. Unfortunately, the change does not seem to be the type teachers had in mind. Billions of dollars were allotted for public schools in the February economic stimulus bill. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan has ensured that, in order for states to receive funds, governors must meet certain provisions. Governors must improve the quality of standardized testing and raise state standards. Further, they must pledge to create a data system that links all teachers to student test scores, as reported by a recent New York Times article. The American education system is a schizophrenic lunatic. For example, students are told they are individuals with many special talents and teach-

ers encourage personal creativity, while the federal government measures the value and success of students and teachers by numbers and formulas. Schools are supposed to be safe and secure environments for learning, while the government threatens thousands of jobs with the outcome of a mere Scantron. In response to a study that concluded about half the children in our nation's cities will not graduate, Duncan stated, "As the president said, every young person who drops out of high school is not only quitting on himself but is also quitting on his country." When 1.2 million people do not finish high school each year, the individual is not the problem. Rather, it is our broken education system and its unreasonable expectations and mixed messages placed on students and teachers alike. The federal government needs to act less like an abusive helicopter parent and more like a mentor who is ever present to provide states support when necessary. Obama and Duncan need to understand the problem does not lie with our nation's citizens but with its leaders who make all of the rules. They should stop blaming the powerless disadvantaged and understand "the buck stops" with them.

Bobby Gomez is a senior in elementary education. Please send comments to opinion@spub.ksu.edu.

Tea party anger means nothing without action behind feelings



TIM HADACHEK

"I'm as mad as hell, and I'm not going to take this anymore!" In the classic 1976 movie "Network," newscaster Howard Beale – a character who is 50-percent Limbaugh, 50-percent Olbermann and 100-percent crazy – tells his viewers they have to get angry, too. Beale instructs his audience to open a window and shout the "mad as hell" line at the top of their lungs. "I don't know what to do about the depression and the inflation and the Russians and the crying in the streets," he tells his viewers. "All I know is first you've got to get mad."

Outrage is, well, all the rage these days. Last week on Tax Day, thousands of people all over the country gathered for "tea parties" to demonstrate their anger toward ... something. People's reasons for participating varied, but they all had one thing in common: "We're here because we're mad," a woman helpfully told a CNN reporter. Yes, anger – anger toward taxes, spending and the government in general. In many ways, the tea parties were a vent for a public frustrated by a struggling economy. But do they mean anything? The various news outlets had different answers to this question. MSNBC amused itself all day by making sophomoric "tea-bagging" jokes. Fox News treated the day as if it was a milestone in human history. If the tea parties were based on nothing more than anger, they have no meaning at all. "I think they all need to be thrown out of office," another tea partyer said. "Republicans, Democrats, they all need to go right now!" Somewhere in our history, Americans decided the federal government was supposed to do what we want, the instant we

wanted it. Our founders had other ideas. The Constitution put many checks in place to impede the whims of populist passion. Representatives were supposed to be the only federal officers elected by the population at large. Senators were elected by state legislatures, and the president by an independent electoral college. The framers implemented such provisions so that our government could "[proceed] with more coolness, with more system and with more wisdom, than the popular branch," according to James Madison. But we've slowly eroded away those checks on populist power. Today our government is much more susceptible to the "fury of democracy," as founder Edmund Randolph worried. Populism is usually characterized by the lower classes of society lashing out toward the smaller upper classes. Often it is defended as a democratic movement. In reality, it is closer to the "mob rule" that Plato describes in his "Republic." When combined with anger and desperate times, populism can have terrible results. Here is where Marxism and derivatives of socialism and communism

have their roots. Lenin, Hitler, Mussolini and Castro all rose to power in waves of populist support. The horrors of the English Revolution, French Revolution and the Bolshevik Revolution all began with the blessing of "the people." Today, of course, we are not in danger of a bloody uprising or an oppressive dictator. But it is important to remember that the so-called "will of the people" is not always the right choice, even in a democracy. The very basic fact about our democracy is that only one aspect matters: your vote. Protests, letter writing and fundraising are only peripheral means to that end. So if the tea parties result in people voting differently in the next election, then they will have mattered. But they can't be based on anger. Being "mad as hell" with no direction will either fade or spiral out of control. Real solutions will not do this.

Tim Hadachek is a junior in political science. Please send comments to opinion@spub.ksu.edu.

THE FOURUM
785-395-4444

The Campus Fourum is the Collegian's anonymous call-in system. The Fourum is edited to eliminate vulgar, racist, obscene and libelous comments. The comments are not the opinion of the Collegian nor are they endorsed by the editorial staff.

To the kid who lost his accounting book: It's been turned into the Student Union business office on the third floor, and you can pick it up between 8:30 and 4:30. And next time you go accusing people,

you should check Salsarita's first.

Today can rot in hell. Bring on tomorrow.

Caaandy caaaane.

Crap. I have nothing better to do than go on a Fourum-calling frenzy.

Now I don't have anything to say.

I wouldn't go see Dr. Row.

This is Moose from West Hall. I just want to remind everyone from West Hall to vote for Joel for president.

I would like to compliment the Pi Phis on their lovely camel toes at Derby Days last night.

Whoever is chalking in other languages rocks that chalk. But not like a Jayhawk.

Hey, K-State Housing and Dining, you can come pick up your couch now. It's been sitting outside for weeks.

Body massage.

G.I. Joe.

To the cute Theta outside running yesterday: You are mighty cute.

I just want to ride my motorcycle.

Drove around all day today and all I saw were guys driving topless. Where's all the topless girls? WTF?

Just got kicked off of Bill Snyder Stadium for playing Frisbee. FML.

Hamburgers and hotdogs, too. I want to have a barbecue.

Check out our Web site for the rest of today's Fourum.



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KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN
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Students, instructors share culture with dance



By Elizaveta Zheganina
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

The International Student Council's free dance lessons, offered as part of International Week 2009, presented K-State students with an opportunity to experience traditional African, Latin, Lebanese and Indian dances Wednesday evening in the K-State Student Union Ballroom.

Four 30-minute lessons offered attendees a chance to learn Latin salsa, African kpanlogo, Lebanese dabkeh and belly dance and Indian dandiya and garba. Dance instructors, composed of K-State students and faculty, captured the imagination of their temporary apprentices and took them on a virtual journey through different rhythms and continents.

Julie Pentz, director of K-State's dance program and the K-State African Dance and Music Ensemble, taught African kpanlogo, to open the evening.

This rhythmic dance native to Ghana originated as a celebration of the country's independence. Its suggestive movements initially discredited kpanlogo among Ghanaian elders. However, when Ghana's president allowed the dance to be performed freely, it became symbolic of celebration, Pentz said.

Neil Dunn, an instructor with the K-State dance program, accompanied the lesson with ethnic drum music and taught one of Ghana's call and response songs.

"It is about bringing the world together through dance," Pentz said of the effect of ethnic dance lessons.

Pentz and Dunn traveled to

Africa in summer 2008, learning local dances and making connections with a local Dagara music and performing arts center.

During the next lesson, attendees became immersed in the rhythm of salsa. Lindsay Ratliff, K-State graduate, and Tiffany Muck, senior in communication studies, taught salsa as representatives from the K-State Swing and Salsa student organization.

"I really like [salsa] because I like the Latin culture," Ratliff said. "I think they have something different about them, something that's more appealing to me. They are really into dancing."

"They are not afraid to move their body, they are not afraid to move their hips, and Americans aren't really like that. And it is nice to experience something different than what we are used to."

Lebanese belly dancing and dabkeh, literally translated from Arabic as "stumping," was third on the list of ethnic dance lessons.

Tina Khalil, a native of Lebanon and graduate student in food services and hospitality management, taught attendees how to move their bodies in rhythm with Lebanese melodies. Dabkeh is traditional line dancing usually performed in traditional attire at weddings, Khalil said.

"It was nice showing somebody how some of our traditions are," Khalil said of her lesson.

Indian dances of dandiya and garba concluded the evening. Pavani Ayyagari, graduate student in computer and information sciences, was among several Indian students who taught the crowd traditional Indian dance movements.

Ayyagari said Dandiya is usu-



Photos by Lisle Alderton | COLLEGIAN

Left: Dancers run out of the second floor of the K-State Student Union performing the traditional African dance, kpanlogo, on Wednesday. **Right:** Kelly Marshall, senior in nutrition, exercise science and anthropology, leads the group of students in a practice run of the African dance.

ally performed during a traditional Indian festival in October.

"I wanted to give everyone a glimpse of what India is, especially Indian dances," Ayyagari said.

Kelly Marshall was among the members of K-State African Dance and Music Ensemble who led the crowd in performing kpanlogo and stayed to experience other ethnic moves. Marshall, senior in nutrition, exercise science and anthropology, said she visited Ghana in summer 2007 to learn culture, drumming and dance. While dancing is just her hobby, Marshall said she pursues it heavily.

"Ethnic dances interest me because it is a different way to move your body," Marshall said. "There is

always some sort of story attached to dances, so I feel like by learning the dances and interacting with the culture, I am able to learn more just about the culture in general."

Fernando Sierra, graduate student in nuclear engineering from Peru, also spent his evening learning how to move in concert with ethnic rhythms.

"As an international student, I am interested to learn more about other cultures," Sierra said.

Sierra said he especially enjoyed the Lebanese dances.

"We have a great variety of cultures at K-State," Sierra said. "[These lessons] are a good way to integrate different cultures of all the students that are going here."

Senate to honor teachers tonight

By Steven Miller
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Student senators plan to vote on new appointments for senatorial positions and the summer treasurer tonight at Student Governing Association's weekly Student Senate meeting.

Senatorial appointments include Michael Champlin, sophomore in political science; Brandon Abbott, freshman in biology; and Thomas Sidlinger, junior in political science. If approved, they will represent the College of Arts and Sciences.

The nominee for summer treasurer, a position that lasts from May 16 to August 23, has yet to be announced but will be announced and voted on at the meeting.

Also on the agenda are two commendations.


The first will recognize presidential award winners, which include six K-State professors.

The awards for Undergraduate Teaching Excellence are going to Joseph Arata, assistant professor of agricultural economics; Leslie Hannah, assistant professor of English at K-State-Salina; Hyun Seung Jin, associate professor of journalism and mass communications and Timothy Rarick, graduate teaching assistant in family studies and human services.

The award for Excellence in Undergraduate Advising will go to Charles Matin, associate professor of geology.

Finally, the award for Outstanding Department Head will be given to William Meredith, director of the School of Family Studies and Human Services.

The second commendation is to the Riley County government for participating in "Change the World, Start with Energy Star," a national environmental organization.



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Crank 2: High Voltage R (12:30)-(2:40)-4:45-6:50-9:35

State of Play PG-13 (12:55)-4:05-7:20-10:00

Hannah Montana The Movie G (12:30)-(1:00)-(2:50)-5:00-7:10-7:45-9:20

Observe and Report R (1:20)-4:10-7:05-9:45

Dragonball: Evolution PG (12:50)-4:05-6:50-9:15

Fast & Furious PG-13 (1:10)-3:55-4:30-7:05-9:25-9:55

Monsters VS Aliens 3D PG (12:35)-(2:45)-5:00-7:15-9:40

Sorry, no passes accepted. Ticket Prices for child, senior and matinee are \$9.00. Tickets for adults are \$11.25.

The Haunting in Connecticut PG-13 4:25-10:00

I Love You Man R (1:30)-7:35

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Earth through Time
5:30 - 7:55 p.m.

Principles/Macroeconomics
5:30 - 7:55 p.m.

Public Speaking I
5:30 - 7:55 p.m.

Public Speaking II
8:05 - 10:30 p.m.

Tuesday/Thursday

Earth in Action
5:30 - 7:55 p.m.

General Calculus and Linear Algebra
5:30 - 7:55 p.m.

Intermediate Macroeconomics
5:30 - 7:55 p.m.

Tuesday/Thursday/Saturday

Introduction Information Technology
June 9 - June 20
5:30 - 7:55 p.m. Tuesday/Thursday
8:30 - 10:30 a.m. Saturday

Introduction PC/Spreadsheet
June 23 - July 2
5:30 - 7:55 p.m. Tuesday/Thursday
8:30 - 10:30 a.m. Saturday

Introduction PC/Database
July 7 - July 18
5:30 - 7:55 p.m. Tuesday/Thursday
8:30 - 10:30 a.m. Saturday

Introduction PC/Word Processing
July 21 - August 1
5:30 - 7:55 p.m. Tuesday/Thursday
8:30 - 10:30 a.m. Saturday

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Manbeck's midweek musings



COLE MANBECK

■ Thursday conundrums while wondering who will lose more games for the Kansas City Royals: Kyle Farnsworth? Or starting pitchers Gil Meche, Zack Greinke and Kyle Davies – combined?

With Sunday's loss, Farnsworth is now 0-3, allowing seven earned runs in just 4.1 innings pitched.

The 33-year-old right-handed reliever is the fourth-highest paid player on the 25-man roster and is the second-highest paid pitcher on the team, behind Meche. That's right, he makes more than Greinke and closer Joakim Soria.

Makes sense, right? In Soria and Greinke's last 105.1 innings pitched, they have combined to allow just 13 earned runs. Farnsworth? Well, he's on pace to allow more runs in 98 less innings. Of course, Greinke and Soria will make a lot more in the following seasons with the contract extensions they have signed.

Speaking of Soria, I think using one of the best relievers in baseball more than once a week would be wise. He's thrown four innings, the second fewest on the team.

■ Think K-State men's basketball coach Frank Martin is licking his chops for his 2009 recruiting class to arrive? If Saturday's all-star games were any indication of things to come, he should be.

Incoming recruits Wally Judge and Rodney McGruder dazzled the crowds at their all-star games.

Judge scored a team-high 18 points and seven rebounds for the White team in the Jordan Brand Classic Saturday at Madison Square Garden. McGruder, who now stands at 6-foot-6, was named Co-MVP of the Reebok All-American game in Washington, D.C., after scoring 24 points and collecting seven rebounds.

If anyone happened to watch Judge in the Jordan Brand Classic, you might have noticed he hit his elbow on the rim going up for an alley-oop, displaying his tremendous athleticism.

I remember doing that one time ... on the five-foot basketball goal in my room.

■ In past years, the coming Saturday might have been one of the worst weeks of the year for fans of the Kansas City Chiefs. However, that was with Carl Peterson running the show.

But new general manager Scott Pioli has brought a renewed confidence into the Chiefs' front office. So who do the Chiefs select in this week's NFL draft? My gut tells me Pioli has something up his sleeve.

■ Wonder if former K-State quarterback Josh Freeman will regret making the trip to New York for the draft? Some draft experts speculate he could be the Brady Quinn or Aaron Rodgers of this year's draft.

■ Think the Detroit Lions' new logo will strike fear into opponents' hearts? After all, the lion decal on the helmet now has teeth, and it seems to have grown more fur ...

■ Is it a good sign that Bill Snyder said long snapper Corey Adams was one of the standouts of spring football at last week's press conference?

■ Wonder if Ron Prince is emphasizing his "Bold and Daring" philosophy with the Virginia special teams?

■ Detroit Lions, you're now on the clock ... again.

Cole Manbeck is a senior in print journalism. Please send comments to sports@spub.ksu.edu.

Hurdling on



Jonathan Knight | COLLEGIAN

Annika Schoenebeck jumps hurdles at the Ward Haylett Invitational held at K-State last year.

Team to compete in 100-year-old Drake Relays

Justin Nutter
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

On April 4, the K-State track and field team traveled to Eugene, Ore., one of the country's most historic track and field locations. Head coach Cliff Rovelto said he was honored to have the opportunity to compete at such a prestigious venue.

"[Eugene] is referred to as 'the track capital of the U.S.A.," Rovelto said before the meet. "The atmosphere is always something that we don't experience very often."

The Wildcats will get a similar opportunity today when they participate in the Drake Relays in Des Moines, Iowa. The meet, which is in its 100th year of existence, annually features some of the world's top competitors.

Rovelto, who has served as the Wildcats' head coach for more than 20 years, said the three-day meet is one of the most important in the country, especially for the city of Des Moines.

"[Drake] has a very good facility in its own right," Rovelto said. "[The Drake Re-

lays] is the biggest event for that university during the year. It's just a major event for the community, and they embrace and support it. There aren't many meets in the country that are like that. Drake is everything that it ever was and then some."

This year's meet will be no exception, as the talented field includes multiple Olympians and athletes who rank No. 1 in the world in their respective events.

Seniors Scott Sellers and Mike Myer, who have enjoyed solid outdoor campaigns thus far, will again look to represent K-State well during the weekend. Sellers, a seven-time All-American high jumper who captured the NCAA indoor championship this year, will compete in a special-invitation division with some of the world's best. He has posted two regional marks in 2009, but will face arguably his toughest competition of the season.

"The quality of the field in the men's high jump is basically a U.S. national championship," Rovelto said. "[Sellers] is the only collegiate [jumper] in the competition. These are the best guys in the country, and he's part of that group. He de-

serves to be there."

Myer, who posted a pair of regional marks in the 100- and 200-meter dashes at the Kansas Relays, will look to add to his already-decorated resume in both events. The Lenexa, Kan., native leads the team with six regional marks this season.

Rovelto said while Myer has been consistent this season, he still thinks the sprinter's best days are ahead of him.

"Mike has obviously run consistently at a relatively high level," he said. "I think we should see better times over the next few weeks. He's always been very close [to qualifying for the NCAA Championships]. If he can improve those times, then he's got a pretty good shot."

In women's competition, sophomore Denise Baker and freshman Boglarka Bozzay will participate in the 100 and the 800, respectively, while junior Alexandra Gonzalez will compete in the pole vault.

Two additional Wildcat pole vaulters will be in action during the weekend when senior Nancy Harrington and red-shirt-freshman Meriel Harwood travel to Lincoln, Neb., for the Nebraska Open on Sunday.

12-seeded Cats head to Tourney



Nathaniel LaRue | COLLEGIAN

Mariya Slupska, righthanded Wildcat freshman, returns a ball during a match against Texas A&M on Saturday. The Wildcats lost 5-2.

Steve Berklund
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

The K-State women's tennis team will look to extend its season today as the Wildcats are scheduled to play in the first round of the Big 12 Championships in Norman, Okla.

The Wildcats (4-14, 1-10 Big 12 Conference) are the 12th-seeded team going into today's 10 a.m. match against the fifth-seeded Colorado Buffaloes at the Headington Family Tennis Center. The Buffaloes dominated the Wildcats earlier this season in Manhattan, winning 7-0 at the Wamego

Recreation Complex.

Colorado (11-9, 7-4 Big 12) enters tomorrow's match ranked as the No. 59 team in the nation. However, the Buffaloes have dropped their last two, losing to Nebraska 2-5, and falling 0-4 Tuesday to the No. 4 Baylor Bears. Though the Buffaloes have not played their best as of late, Colorado freshman Michala Hedelund Jensen has won 15 singles matches this year.

Though the K-State team has played itself into the lowest seed for the championships, a few Wildcats have been playing well this season. Freshman Petra Chuda has

won 15 doubles matches this season, while fellow freshman Mariya Slupska has won nine.

Head coach Steve Bietau said he thinks his team will be up to the task of playing a tough Colorado team.

"I would hope that with the direction this team has been going in the last couple weeks that they are excited [to play in the Big 12 Championships]," Bietau said.

With the K-State roster full of freshmen and sophomores, experience could make a difference in the outcome of the Big 12 Championships. Bietau said that even though

some of young players are still in their first seasons, he thinks they have grown tremendously since the start of school.

"It's late in the year, so the girls that were freshmen nine months ago are closer to being sophomores," Bietau said. "[The freshmen] have played through one whole season of college tennis now, so the lack of experience is quickly changing."

Should the Wildcats come up victorious against Colorado, the Wildcats would then play the fourth-seeded Nebraska Cornhuskers in the second round of the Big 12 Championships.

Sophomore forward to transfer from K-State this year

Sophomore forward Ron Anderson has been released from his athletic scholarship at K-State and will transfer to another institution, head men's basketball coach Frank Martin announced on Wednesday.

"Ron has decided to pursue his playing career at another school," Martin said. "We appreciate his contributions to the program the past two seasons and wish him all the best in the future."

A 255-pound, 6-foot-8-inch sophomore from Upper Marlboro, Md., Anderson saw action in 34 games, all in a reserve role, this past season.

He averaged 5.2 points on 52.2-percent shooting (59-of-113) with 5.3 rebounds and 1.1 assists in 18.8 minutes per game.

For his two-year career, he saw time in 64 games with six starts, averaging 4.3 points and 4.5 rebounds per game.

The son of former NBA player Ron Anderson Sr., Anderson was a member of the recruiting class that included NBA rookie Michael Beasley.

Anderson will finish out the spring semester before transferring.

—K-State Sports Information

History professor links past stock market troubles to current problems in Aggieville presentation

By Gloria Funcheon
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Brent Maner, associate professor in history, presented his research project entitled “Cities of Speculation” yesterday at Bluestem Bistro in Aggieville. His research focused on the phenomenon in the expansion of stock market activity in the European cities of Berlin, Frankfurt and Vienna from the 1860s to the 1930s.

Maner said this time period has significant importance because it was during the second phase of the Industrial Revolution. European cities grew in this time due to increased financing from investments, which created more infrastructure and transportation, he said.

However, the advent of stock and bond markets met resistance and critical opposition, Maner said.

“Nationalist parties in Germany saw the stock exchange as something foreign,” he said. “They were suspicious that the market was bringing the end to the German farmer and be deleterious to the German nation and culture.”

While the stock exchange spurred anxiety, it also embodied the promise of the city and its potential prosperity.

“The stock exchange functions as a metaphor for modern city life,” he said. “All these new characters for the world of finance were the drivers of banking.

They were also the patrons and consumers of middle class culture which was a new role the late 19th century.”

Maner said he will continue his research while on sabbatical next year. He plans to spend 2 months in Germany for the fall and 4 months in Vienna the following spring. He said he plans to use newspapers and historical archives for his research, because the way newspapers framed discussion on the stock market holds special significance.

Maner’s presentation also encouraged group discussion. Yoseph Ansawada, senior in civil engineering, brought up a contemporary criticism of the stock exchange.

“In Saudi Arabia the stock exchange is seen as gambling,” Ansawada said. “This is not considered permissible because it generates capital without work.”

So far, Maner’s research confirms a cyclical nature of market activity.

“One lesson we learn from [the] past is that we behave in the same way,” Maner said. “We capitalize on the possibility of growth because we buy into the irrational possibilities of growth.”

Education about past economic problems can help people prepare for future crisis said Crayton Caswell, sophomore in history.

“The more we know about it, the more it seems like [a crisis] is coming again,” Caswell said.



Nathaniel LaRue | COLLEGIAN
Brent Manner laughs while talking about his new research project, “Cities of Speculation,” which is a history of the stock market in Germanic Europe from the late 19th century to the Great Depression.

Auntie Mae’s to celebrate 35 years with 3-day bash

By Joel Aschbrenner
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Auntie Mae’s Parlor is celebrating its 35th birthday this weekend with a three-day party, kicking off tonight.

The Aggieville bar starts the celebration tonight by featuring a pair of singers: Noah Earle, a Kansas native and local award-winning blues singer, and Samantha Clemons, 2009 K-State Idol winner.

Friday night, Auntie Mae’s is sponsoring a free Jazz show, featuring the Kelly McCarty Trio.

Saturday night, the bar is throwing its 35th Anniversary Party and inviting past employees and patrons to come back to celebrate Auntie Mae’s birthday.

Auntie Mae’s opened in 1974 as a tribute to Dora “Auntie” Mae Walters, who opened a speak-easy in 1930, during prohibition. Walters opened the secret bar in the basement of Walter’s Plumbing, which was located in the building that is now Auntie Mae’s.

When Charlie Bush opened the bar in 1974, the establishment became one of the first bars in Manhattan to serve liquor and to only cater to patrons 21 and older; most bars at the time only served beer and were open to everyone 18 and older.

ASIM | Journalist relates Obama’s rapid acceleration to changing society

Continued from Page 1

founder Gordon Moore, who in 1965 created Moore’s Law, which states the number of transistors on a microchip will double about every two years. “When microchips were first introduced they could only fit a few dozen transistors, and now Intel can produce a microchip with more than a billion transistors,” he said.

He asked the audience, “What if we applied Moore’s law to our lives?”

Asim, who is also a professor at the University of Illinois, made several references to Civil Rights activists like Rosa Parks and how their actions led to change.

“Rosa didn’t sit down because she was tired, she sat down because she didn’t want [us] to be,” he said. “We are part of a continuum of purpose.”

Asim explained to the audience members that their actions now will affect an entire generation.

“What have you done for the unborn generations? What if you wasted time instead of studying?” he asked. “You are sentencing an entire generation to low expectations and confirming stereotypes.”

Asim admitted he did not believe that Obama would make it this far, but that Obama’s election happened in part of black men gaining power in society with figureheads like Colin Powell and black mayors and CEOs across America becoming trailblazers.

He encouraged the audience to look at America’s “problems through new lenses.”

Asim ended his lecture by asking a final question: “Obama was ready to accelerate – what about you? Are you ready?”

Many students and faculty in attendance said they found the lecture enlightening and uplifting.

“The individuals that were here heard a very charismatic and profound message that embodies where America is going,” said David Griffin Sr., associate professor of secondary education and assistant dean of diversity.

Griffin said the message was one that is crucial to the university’s goal of diversity.

“It saddens me that this venue was not packed,” he said. “His message spoke directly to the people and resonates with the university and as a people far beyond this arena.”

John Exdell, associate professor of philosophy, said he was moved by the speech.

“The speech was inspirational and encouraged us all to hope that Obama’s presidency is a real breakthrough,” Exdell said. “We have to be skeptical and hopeful at the same time. We can’t assume that Obama will do the right thing without our energy behind him – we will be making a mistake if we think that.”

NELLIS | Local ties wish provost luck

Continued from Page 1

and Sciences at West Virginia University before returning to K-State in 2004 as provost.

Though Nellis is leaving the university, he still has many close ties to campus.

“I think he’s done an exceptional job here at Kansas State University, and I’m very sorry to see him leave K-State, but I have no doubt that he will do nothing but succeed at the University of Idaho,” said Stephen White, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

White said he and Nellis have been good friends and colleagues for a long time. Other faculty also wished Nellis luck in his new job.

“I’m happy for Duane because he has an opportunity to be a president, and also for Ruthie, his wife, because they are from the Northwest and this is a homecoming of sorts,” said Bruce Schubert, vice president of administration and finance.

With a new university president and provost, K-State stands to see some changes in the next few years.

“We are seeing big changes in leadership with President Wefald leaving,” said Student Body President Dalton Henry, senior in agricultural economics and agricultural communication and journalism. “I think that it is certainly a big change as well – having Provost Nellis leave. I think that they both did good things for K-State, but that with the leadership of Kirk Schulz coming in, K-State will certainly continue on to great things.”

EARTH DAY | Clubs feature ‘green’ activities at student fair

Continued from Page 1

amusement of many, and he said he enjoyed demonstrating a sustainable style of acoustic music.

“[The whole event] was so fun,” said Lexi Janezic, junior in fine arts. “It felt like the Wakarusa [music festival].”

Perhaps the most interesting part of the celebration was Steve Sykes, freshman in open option and member of Students for Environmental Action, who wandered around the plaza covered with plastic bags.

“Most people thought I was goofy,” Sykes said. “I got to explain how and why to reduce landfill materials ... I got a lot of looks, a lot of laughs.”

Students from the K-State Farm Club sold a variety of herbs, bags of spinach and tomatoes – both off the vine and transplanted in pots – during the event. Members educated passing students about their activities and their philosophy on locally grown food.

“A lot of people have become detached from their environment,” said Brandon Gonzalez, senior in horticulture and manager at the K-State student farm. “[The Farm Club] shows people they’re just as connected as ever.”

The K-State Cycling Club was also present at the event offering free bicycle repairs and tune-ups and promoting the use of bicycles instead of cars.

“[The Cycling Club] is trying to get more people riding and doing something good for the environment,” said Kris Pacinelli, senior in mechanical engineering and member of the club.

Tanner Marshall, senior in mechanical engineering and club captain, said the club set up two repair stands and serviced about 30 bicycles throughout the day.

According to the Students for Environmental Action’s Web site, walking or bicycling in Manhattan is one of the simplest ways to conserve energy and help save the environment.

Another way to do this, Champion said, is to start thinking about waste management issues – something K-State is now actively pursuing.

“We’ve been recycling since 1989,” said John Woods, director of facilities services, “[but] it really hasn’t had the support of students and administration until about five years ago.”

Woods said there are two full-time members of his staff who work solely with recycling. He also said five students contribute about 60 hours per week to assist in campus recycling efforts.

But just recycling isn’t enough. Champion said recycling, waste management and purchasing waste are still significant problems on campus.

“If [the K-State community] could save 20 percent more energy, we would save over \$3 million,” he said.

Champion said he and several others are working on a Web site to better educate members of the K-State community on what is happening with the environment and suggest ways to get involved. For more information, visit <http://sustainability.k-state.edu>.

NBAF | Legal process could slow construction

Continued from Page 1

According to an Associated Press article, the Texas group’s chairman, John Kerr, said Kansas was improperly chosen because the DHS ignored the high risk of tornadoes in the region. He said damage to the facility from a tornado, like the F-4 twister that hit Manhattan in June 2008, could cause the release of deadly airborne pathogens.

Kerr also said the site selection process involved improper political influence and was “tainted from the very beginning.”

Kansas Bioscience Authority president Tom Thorton issued a statement Wednesday that said, “The federal government chose Kansas as the best home on the merits for a new research facility to protect the American food supply and agriculture economy.

“Throughout the review, Kansas was noted for its internationally recognized animal health research expertise, state-of-the-art research infrastructure and the world’s largest concentration of animal health companies – all of which will significantly accelerate the NBAF research and commercialization mission,” he said.

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius said in a statement Wednesday that the NBAF site selection process was thorough, free of politics and fair.

“Kansas played by the rules and was chosen solely on its merits,” Sebelius said. “Kansas is recognized around the globe for its animal-health research expertise, state-of-the-art research and industry infrastructure, and deep agricultural heritage.”

She said she is also concerned that the legal action will only delay the NBAF mission, placing the national security and food supply at risk.

According to a press release from the Kansas Bioscience Authority, the DHS reduced its list of interested organizations to five sites in five states, including Kansas, in July 2007. The final EIS was prepared following the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act and recommended Kansas as the preferred NBAF location in December 2008.

Thorton said the DHS should be recognized for the diligent process it undertook in ensuring the success of NBAF, and Kansas offers a solution to protecting America’s food supply, not just a site.

“Kansas remains intensely focused on accelerating efforts to protect the American food supply and agriculture economy in partnership with DHS,” he said.

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Students Welcome

Artists craft a new experience in studio



Jaque Bundy, sophomore in art, works on a ring Wednesday afternoon that will house a picture frame when completed. The ring is for the Metalsmithing and Jewlery class that **Bundy** is enrolled in.

Nathaniel LaRue | COLLEGIAN

Students garner additional skills in Metalsmithing, Jewelry class

Tyler Sharp
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Conversation intertwined with the sounds of jeweler saws, metal forging and soldering, which fill the small studio.

Around the room, students gaze intently at the intricate aspects of unfinished projects in various stages of completion. Many students remain focused on completing their latest project, a small container resembling a photo film canister. Throughout the semester, the students have constructed a number of projects, ranging from hollowware to rings.

For students in Metalsmithing and Jewelry, ART 270, the semester-long experience of crafting a wide variety of items is a "good thing."

"That way you learn how to work with almost all sorts of metals and then also how are they affected by different things," said Dante Johns, sophomore in graphic design.

This experience is the point of the class, according to Lynn Cool, graduate student in fine arts and the course instructor. Each of the semester's four projects has a specific purpose behind it, she said.

The first project is to make a broach

or pin. Cool said through this students are able to learn about riveting. Creating a hollowware piece is the second project. Students are tasked with commemorating moments or people from their lives, among other options in the piece. One person created a design showing him fishing with his grandfather using fishing wire and lead weight, she said.

"It personalizes it," she said. "I think that is a really important to have people not be like another person in the class."

The third project of the semester is to create a ring. Cool said the main goal of creating the ring was acclimating students with the soldering process. The final project, creating the small container, is known as marriage of metals. Students combine two different metals and create a pattern on the container.

"Because of creating this pattern and then having to solder, it is pretty advanced and tricky," she said.

To accomplish these projects, students have a vast studio with many tools and a considerable amount of space at their disposal. The studio on the third floor of Willard Hall is one of the country's best, Cool said. The studio has proper equipment for forming, soldering, acid

etching, casting and enameling among other processes.

Jacque Franden, sophomore in photography and ceramics, said the availability of so many tools helps to facilitate creativity.

"We have a lot of access to a lot of different tools and materials," she said. "It's really helpful. If you can think of it, you can probably do it. I know a lot of other studios you cannot really exactly do everything you want to do, but this one seems like it really covers a lot of areas you'd want to work with."

The artistic experience is not the extent of the skills taken from the course, Franden said.

"Problem solving," she said. "Because you have to figure out what you are doing and have a plan. If it doesn't work, you have to figure out something else."

Cool said that working in 3-D design also helps develop a different part of the brain. Franden said she would recommend the course to others.

"I really enjoy being an art major because the class setting is so much different than a large lecture setting for class," she said. "Just the environment. It's really fun to work with people around you."

Classic play last of spring shows for department

Tierra Gordon
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

The Manhattan community will be able to enjoy the classic Russian play, "The Cherry Orchard," written by renowned playwright Anton Chekhov and presented by K-State Theater.

Charlotte MacFarland, the play's director and associate professor of communication studies, theater and dance, said after a lengthy deliberation process, "The Cherry Orchard" was chosen as part of four productions the department puts on each year in the spring semester.

"It's a world classic for students, faculty and townspeople to be presented with a beautiful and subtle play," MacFarland said. "It's a play about how people accept and embrace change."

She said the play gives student actors many different challenges, and the audience will be able to see them work together as a group because there is no main character.

"It challenges them in every possible way," MacFarland said. "There are no real lead roles – everyone plays off of each other. It's all about the group."

Charlie Sutterlin, senior in theater and cast member, said he auditioned for the play because as an actor, he didn't want to limit himself to certain genres and writings.

Meredith Lindsey, junior in broadcast journalism and cast member, said she likes Chekhov's plays and that, to prepare for her role, she studied an autobiography of her character. She said she hopes to portray that her character is introspective, sad and intelligent.

Zachery Roland, senior in communications studies and cast member, said he auditioned because he wanted to have fun his senior year and that he thinks the audience will enjoy the play because they will be able to connect with at least one character.

"The Cherry Orchard" is the final play for the theater department this year, and members of the production staff said they would like as many people to attend as possible to appreciate the hard work they and the cast have contributed during the season.

"This is the final main-stage show of the four that we put on for the year," MacFarland said. "We want people to understand that we are here and that [the students have done] a good job."

"The Cherry Orchard" will run today through Saturday and April 29-May 2 in Nichols Theater. Performances are at 7:30 p.m., and tickets are \$8 for students, \$11 for members of the military and \$13 for the general public.

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Classifieds continue on the next page

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Housing/Real Estate

105

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THREE-BEDROOM, two bath basement. Walk to campus and Aggieville, laundry, pets considered. June. \$750 913-669-9066

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THREE-BEDROOM, TWO bath, three blocks from campus, vanities in bedrooms, flat screen TV, granite counters, stainless steel appliances, washer/ dryer included, June/ August lease, \$1275, 785-313-1807.

TWO - BEDROOM CLOSE to campus and Aggieville 901 Moro. \$820/ month. Water/ trash paid. No pets. June and August leases. Each apartment has their own washer/ dryer 785-539-4283.

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THREE-BEDROOM, two bath, new kitchen, new carpet, central-air, new appliances, off-street parking. Located on east edge of campus at **1207 Pomeroy**, June or August lease available. Call Doug, **785-313-5573.**

110 Rent-Apt. Unfurnished

\$1000 OFF first month rent. 1125 Laramie Apartments. Four-bedroom, August lease. Reserved parking in Aggieville! **785-320-6300.**

1117 VATTIER Two-bedroom. Two years old, electric heat, washer/ dryer. August lease. Call **785-313-8296** or **785-313-8292.**

1126 BLUEMONT. All bills paid. **Three-bedroom penthouse.** \$1100. August lease. No pets. **785-313-4812.**

1628 FAIRVIEW. Quiet, near campus. Two-bedroom. Porch, laundry, garage. No pets, no smoking. **\$650. June. Open house** April 25 and 26. 3:00-4:30 p.m. **530-342-1121.**

200N. 11th On city park. Large, three-bedroom, porch, laundry, Water, trash paid. No pets, no smoking **August \$870. Open House** April 25 and 26. 1- 2:30p.m. **530-342-1121.**

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AUGUST PRELEASING. Several units available. Close to KSU. Some units less than five years old. Please call for details. **785-776-2102.**

120 Rent-Houses

1417 NICHOLS- 1733 Kenmar. Four-bedroom, living room plus game room, washer/ dryer, nice appliances please call evenings 7:00- 10:00p.m.. **785-539-1177.**

2025 TECUMSEH, four/ five-bedroom. Very nice, clean house. Washer/ dryer, dishwasher. No pets. June lease. Two blocks to campus. See pictures at www.itstime2rent.com. Call Susan at **785-336-1124.**

802 N. 5th. Three-bedroom, two bath. \$900 per month plus utilities. Washer/ dryer provided. No pets. **785-564-0372.** Available June 1.

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FIVE-BEDROOM (TWO kitchens) houses. Several locations. Central-air, washer/ dryer. Nice and big rooms. June and August, **785-712-7254.**

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AUGUST PRELEASING. Several very nice, spacious, energy efficient. Four plus bedroom/ study, two bath. All appliances including washer/ dryer. Close to KSU. Most locations \$335 per bedroom. **785-776-2102, www.wilksapts.com.**

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ONE AND two-bedroom. Close to campus, off-street and covered parking, available **June 1.** Call Tony **785-341-0686.**

ONE AND two-bedrooms close to campus. Available **June. 785-712-7257.**

ONE LEFT. Mondo Condos Spacious and clean, newer four/ five-bedroom, two bath duplex, all appliances complete with large laundry room, includes trash, lawn care, snow removal, off-street parking, quiet neighborhood, convenient and close to campus. **\$1400** available **August 1st.** Sorry no pets! **785-313-0751.**

ONE, TWO, three, four-bedroom apartments; June/ August. Some close to campus. Several with laundry facilities, off-street parking. No pets. **785-341-1950; 785-580-7444.**

ONE, TWO, three-bedroom luxury apartments. Close to campus. Washer/ dryer. Pool, gym, theatre. 1510 College, 1010 Bluemont. collegiat-evilla.com. **785-537-2096.**

120 Rent-Houses

FOUR-BEDROOM, TWO bathroom, close to campus, 831 Ratone, \$1200, pets considered. **785-477-3731.**

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SIX-BEDROOM, two blocks to campus. Next year's lease fell through- August available. Great house- call for details. **785-539-4641.**

THREE, FOUR-BEDROOM houses close to campus and Aggieville. Washer/ dryer, off-street parking. **785-539-5800.**

THREE-BEDROOM 1737 Winne. All appliances, new kitchen, washer and dryer included. Very nice. Available June 1. Fenced in back yard. Pet considered \$1035/ month **785-845-8306** Jim jwdodge@yahoo.com

TWO BEDROOMS in three-bedroom house available for rent. No smoking or pets. Call **620-222-2751** for information.

TWO-BEDROOM ONE bath washer/ dryer. 717 Fremont, available June 1. **785-537-7138.**

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110 Rent-Apt. Unfurnished

ONE-BEDROOM BASEMENT near Aggieville and KSU, available June 1, laundry provided, \$390/ month plus utilities. 1124 Fremont. **785-532-7541** (daytime), **785-532-9366** (evenings).

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TWO AND three-bedroom apartments. Close to campus, central-air, laundry facility. No pets. Call **785-537-1746** or **785-539-1545.**

TWO, THREE and four-bedroom. Close to campus, central-air, dishwasher, laundry facilities. No pets. **785-539-0866.**

TWO-BEDROOM BASEMENT near Aggieville and KSU, available June 1, laundry provided, \$490/ month plus utilities. 1126 Fremont **785-532-7541** (daytime), **785-532-9366** (evenings).

TWO-BEDROOMS, GREAT locations, many options. Call Tony **785-341-0686.**

TWO-BEDROOM apartment to rent for **Summer.** Available May 16 through July 29. \$620/ month plus utilities. Contact Lane **785-543-4225.**

TWO-BEDROOM CLOSE to campus. **Private balcony.** Central-air, dishwasher, no pets. August lease. \$620/ month. **785-341-5070.**

TWO-BEDROOM on the west side of campus. No pets. 10 or 12 month leases. \$620/ month. **The Lundin at 1860 College Heights.** **785-539-2649.**

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130 Rent-Mobile Homes

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145 Roommate Wanted

FEMALE ROOMMATE wanted. Three-bedroom, two bath unit. Close to campus. Washer/ dryer. \$325 plus half utilities. **785-587-7133.**

FEMALE ROOMMATE wanted. \$350/ month, utilities paid. No deposit. Call Darlene **785-567-6710.**

ROOMMATE, FOUR-BEDROOM, two bath, garage, fenced yard, pets ok. \$302.50 plus one-fourth utilities, June 1. 1525 Humboldt. **620-408-8083, 620-515-6288**

ROOMMATES NEEDED. Nice four-bedroom, two bath. Washer/ dryer included, near KSU/ Aggieville, \$300 month. **785-776-2102.** www.wilksapts.com

150 Sublease

NICE, SPACIOUS studio apartment. Available June 1 to August 1. Furnished, central-air, laundry and parking. Close to campus. **\$425.** **785-220-4483**

SUBLEASER NEEDED for three-bedroom one bath house, two other roommates. Summer 2009 17th and Anderson \$325/ month plus utilities contact **785-608-5869**

117 Rent-Duplexes

FOUR-BEDROOM DUPLEX half mile from campus and by City Park. Washer/ dryer included. Single property owner. No pets, no smoking. 1410 Houston, back and front units. **\$1150/ month.** Call for rate for 3 renters. **785-776-9260.**

FOUR-BEDROOM DUPLEXES: 925 and 931 Bluemont. Fireplace, laundry hookups. Two and one-half bath. Dishwasher. No pets. **785-539-0866.**

THREE-BEDROOM, two-story duplex with two-car garage. Very well maintained. Single property owner. Washer/ dryer. No pets, no smoking. **\$930/ month. 785-776-9260.**

TWO-BEDROOM SECOND floor located at **1030 Thurston.** Available June 1. **785-539-3672.**

120 Rent-Houses

1022 NORTH 11th-Four-bedroom duplex available June 1. **New construction. No pets 785-313-4812.**

1130 VATTIER: Three-bedroom, August lease, \$1050. Two-bedroom, June and/ or August, \$650. Water, trash and gas paid. **785-313-8292** or **785-313-8296.**

1425 VISTA Lane: Four-bedroom brick home with two fireplaces, two living areas, garage, and washer/ dryer. No pets. June Lease. **785-313-4812.**

1614 PIERRE. Four-bedroom, two bath, **New inside and out.** **785-304-0387.**

1835 ELAINE- August Lease- Four-bedroom lower level duplex with central-air and washer/ dryer. \$1100. No pets **785-313-4812.**

150 Sublease

SUMMER FEMALE sublesser needed for the months of June and July (can move in a little early) Rent is 237.50 plus bills. Room is master of the house and has a double closet. House is located one block from campus and two blocks from Aggieville. If interested call **913-748-1168.**

SUMMER RENTAL. One-bedroom studio. Rents either May 1, May 15, or June 1 through August 1 \$550/ month for everything. One block from campus, close to Aggieville, no pets. **785-341-2164.**

VERY NICE two-bedroom one bathroom apartment. Newer appliances with pool and gym facilities on grounds. Located at 2145 Buckingham Apartment 2 next to Candlewood. **620-229-4211** for more information.

165 Storage Space

MABERRY RFD, INC. Self-Storage. Multiple Units 5x10 up to 10x30. Prices starting at \$45/ month! East of Manhattan on Highway 24. Discounts available. Call **785-539-0266.**

200 Service Directory

235 Child Care

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120 Rent-Houses

2025 TECUMSEH, four/ five-bedroom. Very nice, clean house. Washer/ dryer, dishwasher. No pets. June lease. Two blocks to campus. See pictures at www.itstime2rent.com. Call Susan at **785-336-1124.**

514 N. 9th. Main floor \$550 August lease and three-bedroom \$850 water and trash paid. **785-313-8296** or **785-313-8292.**

785-539-2300. FIVE-BEDROOM houses. Great locations. Pet friendly. Call Alliance Property Management today. www.rentfromapm.com

BEST DEAL! Four/ five-bedrooms, two bathroom house. One block to campus. **\$275/ bedroom.** Call Tony **785-341-0686.**

FIVE- SIX-BEDROOM, August lease. \$300/ bedroom, water and trash paid. **785-313-8292** or **785-313-8296.**

FIVE-BEDROOM, TWO bath, two blocks to campus, dishwasher, washer/ dryer. June 1. Pets ok. **785-317-7713**

FIVE-BEDROOM close to campus, central-air washer/ dryer. No pets. June lease. **First month free.** **785-341-5070.**

FIVE-BEDROOM, TWO bath house. Close to campus and Aggieville. Carpeted, central air, washer/ dryer, dishwasher, stove, refrigerator, off-street parking. No pets. August lease. **316-772-3171.**

FOUR-BEDROOMS, two bath, all bills paid. Washer/ Dryer. Off street parking, close to campus. **785-341-4496.**

FOUR-BEDROOM HOUSE two bath, June 1, washer/ dryer, dishwasher, pets ok. Just **\$250/ person.** **785-317-7713**

FOUR-BEDROOM HOUSES. Great locations. Pet friendly. Call Alliance Property Management today. **785-539-2300** www.rentfromapm.com

300 Employment/Careers

310 Help Wanted

THE COLLEGIAN cannot verify the financial potential of advertisements in the Employment/ Career classification. Readers are advised to approach any such business opportunity with reasonable caution. The Collegian urges our readers to contact the Better Business Bureau, 501 SE Jefferson, Topeka, KS 66607-1190. **785-232-0454.**

ARE YOU tired of your summer job? Come work with me. I need four more students to help me run my business this summer. Average student makes \$800/ week. Call **620-222-2267** for details.

BARTENDING! \$300 a day potential. No experience necessary. Training provided. Call **800-965-6520** extension 144.

165 Storage Space

MABERRY RFD, INC. Self-Storage. Multiple Units 5x10 up to 10x30. Prices starting at \$45/ month! East of Manhattan on Highway 24. Discounts available. Call **785-539-0266.**

200 Service Directory

235 Child Care

LOOKING FOR a part-time daycare helper. Must love children and have CPR and first aide training. **785-564-0857.**

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120 Rent-Houses

FOUR-BEDROOM, TWO bath, located at 911 Laramie. Available June 1. **785-539-3672.**

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THREE, FOUR, five-bedrooms. August. No pets. Washer/ dryer. **785-587-9460.**

THREE-BEDROOM TOWN homes and duplexes on West side of town. Available June and August. Pet friendly with no pet deposit. \$775 to \$975 call **785-313-4812.**

WWW.RENTFROMAPM.COM. SIX-BEDROOM houses. Great locations. Pet friendly. Call Alliance Property Management today. **785-539-2300.**

310 Help Wanted

CASE MANAGER. Requires excellent organization and communication skills, valid driver's license. Genuine concern for elders and caregivers a must. Requires RN or degree in gerontology, social work or related field and one-year of experience in elderly population preferred but willing to train the right person. Full-time position with excellent benefits Send cover letter, resume and three references by 5p.m., April 30, 2009 to Search Committee, 401 Houston St., Manhattan, KS 66605-1066 Equal Opportunity Employer/ Affirmative Action.

CHIPOTLE. WORK at a place where you ACTUALLY like to eat the food. Now hiring for all shifts. Apply in person at 606 N. Manhattan Ave., Manhattan, KS.

COACH: ASSISTANT Football coach for Riley County Middle School, Riley, KS. Please contact Becky Pultz at bpultz@usd378.org or **785-485-4000** as soon as possible.

EARN EXTRA money. Students needed as soon as possible. Up to \$150 per day being a mystery shopper. No experience required. Call **1-800-722-4791.**

200 Service Directory

235 Child Care

LOOKING FOR a part-time daycare helper. Must love children and have CPR and first aide training. **785-564-0857.**

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310 Help Wanted

GAIA SALON seeking an enthusiastic, well-mannered manager of guest services. Resumes accepted at 421 Poyntz, Manhattan.

GET PAID cash and rewards for taking online surveys. www.CashToSpend.com.

HELP WANTED for Harvesting: Combine Operators and Truck Drivers. Good wages, guaranteed pay. Call **970-483-7490**, evenings.

HELP WANTED with spring cleanup for large yard. Work with your schedule. **785-539-1086** leave message if no answer.

HELP WANTED: part to full-time Pharmacists, Techs, and Clerks. Experience preferred. Apply to wamegodrug@yahoo.com.

LIFEGUARDS. MANHATTAN Country Club is now hiring lifeguards for the 2009 season. Must be Red-Cross certified. Apply in person at 1531 N. 10th St.

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN needed for a student housing community in Manhattan, KS. Assists the Maintenance Supervisor with general maintenance responsibilities of the community. Apply online at www.campusadv.com or fax resume to **785-539-0523** Equal Opportunity Employer Male/ Female/ Disabled/ Veteran.

MC MILLIN'S RETAIL Liquor is accepting applications for spring/ summer sales clerks. Apply in person, 930 Hayes Drive, Manhattan.

MEDICAL CLINIC seeking a part-time IT person to assist with computer, hardware, software and networking issues. For more information please contact the administrator at admin@twhg.net.

PART-TIME JANITOR: Seeking a dependable individual for commercial building cleaning. Flexible scheduling for students with competitive rates. Looking to fill evening and weekend positions for the summer. For more information, contact Jeff at **785-341-0462.**

RELIABLE ON call child care in my home, maybe evenings or weekends, must have experience call Tina **785-236-9222.**

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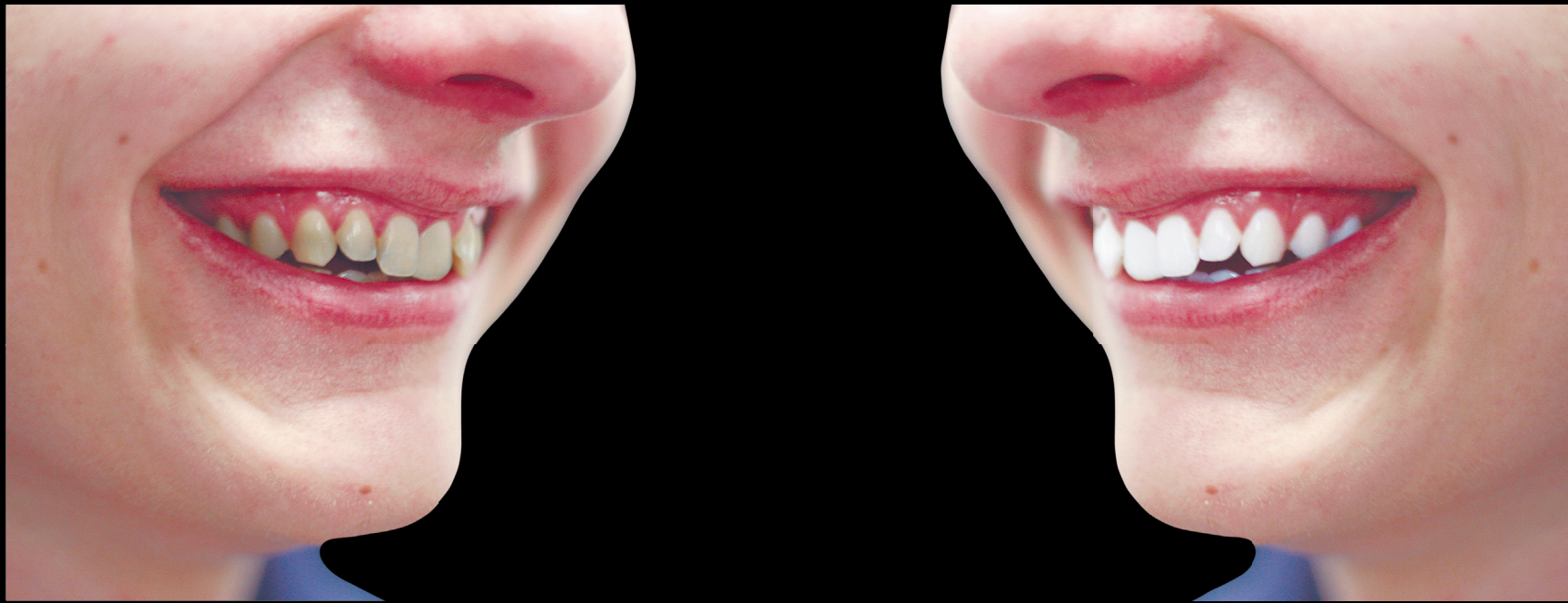


Photo Illustration by Joslyn Brown | COLLEGIAN

Customers generally can use teeth whitening products from stores or visit technicians who specialize in the service to attain brighter smiles. Dentists at the Majestic Smile use a Lighting Emitting Diode light to whiten teeth, which they claim is a safer method than laser lights other technicians might offer.

Teeth whitening procedures vary in price, location, safety level

By **Monica Castro**
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Many people want brighter, whiter smiles but might be overwhelmed by the variety of products and options available. Locally, dental professionals at Majestic Smile, 518 Humboldt St., are offering a new procedure they said is more effective and less harmful.

The Majestic Smile process works differently than other processes, said Dentist Robert David Sager.

“We are all about whitening teeth, not harming the gums,” Sager said. “We use [Lighting Emitting Diode] lights – not a laser, which burns the gums.”

The LED whitening system does not harm teeth, gums or lips with heat or excessive use of radiation wavelengths.

Patients first look at a chart of different shades of white and pick the color on the chart that best represents their teeth. After that, dentists put a whitening solution on patients’ teeth and put the lighting device close to the teeth. The sessions are eight minutes long. After the third session, dentists remove the whitening solution from the teeth.

Cecilia Knapp, whitening technician, said people pay for three eight-minute sessions but are free to purchase more sessions. Knapp she does not recommend additional sessions because they can wear the enamel off a person’s teeth.

“This method produces immediate results up to

four to six shades lighter, and you can always see the results,” Sager said.

IN MALLS

“Within the last three years, many people don’t come in [to Majestic Smile] because they do it in the mall,” Sager said.

Sager said though teeth whitening venues can be found at malls, he advises costumers to beware.

He said many mall venues might not have professionals working there or technicians using proper lighting devices.

“The light doesn’t do anything but maybe wear down teeth enamel,” Sager said. “The lights used are most likely UV lights, which cause sun burn.”

Sager urges people to do research when trying to find the best option for whitening their teeth.

IN STORES

Whitening products like Crest White Strips are easier to buy and cheaper than other teeth whitening options, but Sager said people cannot use the strips over and over again because they will ruin teeth.

“Using white strips constantly will make teeth look dull,” Sager said. “People can use the strips every once in a while.”

Using whitening strips can take off stains but also removes minerals from teeth, while depositing chemicals.

Heather Hart, sophomore in open option, said she has used whitening strips and even whitening

mouthwash. She said she did not get fast results, but by the end of the process, her teeth were whiter.

“I did notice [the whitening product] made my teeth more sensitive,” Hart said. “I started using it less, like once a day instead of twice a day like it said.”

Hart said she knew teeth sensitivity and other problems might happen while using the whitening strips but used them anyway.

She said she chose to use whitening strips instead of going to a professional because she liked being able to choose when to use them, and they were also less expensive.

AT THE DENTIST

Majestic Smile sells a post-operation kit which includes various products to help restore teeth after having a whitening done.

One of the products in the post-operation kit is a toothpaste that reduces the irritation of the gums.

Sager stressed that protection of the gums is extremely important because teeth can be sensitive.

“We are trying to get the word out about the right way to do things,” Sager said.

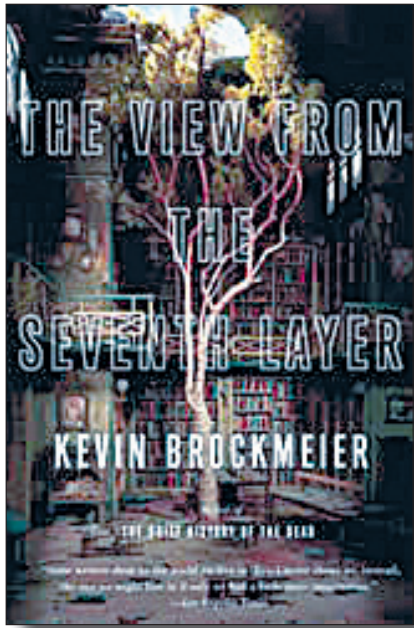
Sager said patients who have had their teeth whitened at Majestic Smile usually experience results that last for six months to a year when using the after-care products.

“We are trying to embark on a new project,” Sager said.

“We want to make it affordable at the front end.”

BOOK REVIEW

Author spins tales featuring supernatural experiences



“The View from the Seventh Layer”

★★★★☆

Book review by Steven Miller

In the tradition of Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Kevin Brockmeier tells stories of the supernatural and fantastic with a “brick face,” relaying the epic stories of otherwise quiet lives in “The View from the Seventh Layer.”

The sentences are austere and straightforward, yet they are linked by such a strange logic that the end product is a varied and complex landscape.

The first story in the collection, “A Fable Ending in the Sound of a Thousand Parakeets,” begins simply with an ordinary but musical city and the one mute person who resides there. It ends with his menagerie of birds rush-

ing out the front door after his death and, “in a thousand different tones, a thousand different inflections, they reproduced all the sounds of the mute’s daily life, from the steady beat of his footsteps to the whistle of his coffeepot to the slow spreading note of his final breath. It sounded for all the world like a symphony.”

The title story follows the eccentric Olivia as she contemplates her isolation while working odd jobs on a tiny Caribbean island. Her observations are, for the most part, literary. She evaluates the owners of the homes she cleans by their bookcases: “People who read Thomas Pynchon are smart but disdainful,” and, “Olivia approved wholeheartedly of people who read Carson McCullers – their open nerves and their beaten glances.” And between these observations are meditations on the events of her life.

While the underlying event is her abduction by an alien she calls the Entity, she regards the experience quietly: “In the seventh layer of space, it said, the past was indistinguishable from the present, so nothing was ever truly lost, and nothing was ever truly irreparable.”

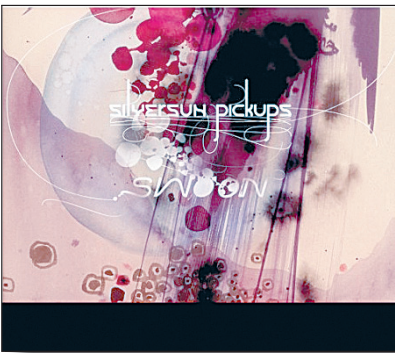
However, the problems of concept stories becomes apparent in “The Human Soul as a Rube Goldberg Device: A Choose-Your-Own-Adventure Story.” Here, the carpentry of characterization and precise imagery falls away and the labyrinthine plot takes over. “If you have ever really been happy, turn to page 158. If you haven’t, turn to page 174.” It’s an interesting take on the old standard – but not an effective one.

The final story, “A Fable with Slips of White Paper Spilling from the Pockets,” is much more effective. Here, “a man” comes across God’s overcoat in a thrift store and proceeds to find typed prayers in all of the pockets for several weeks until he loses it.

The fantastic among the mundane is Brockmeier’s greatest strength, and if you like high-concept fiction, you will enjoy this collection.

MUSIC REVIEW

Sophomore slump for the Pickups



“Swoon”

★★★★☆

Album review by Gloria Funcheon

Los Angeles shoegaze rockers Silversun Pickups released their sophomore album “Swoon” through Dangerbird Records on April 14. These Smashing Pumpkins protégés drew critical acclaim for their abrasive rock debut album “Carnavas” in 2006. Since then, this quartet of singer-guitarist Brian Aubert, bassist Nikki Monninger, drummer Chris Guanlao and samples manager Joe Lester have developed even thicker and more haunting riffs.

Fuzzy guitar and cymbal-heavy percussion opens “There’s No Secrets this Year.” The last minute of this song is drastically stark with Aubert’s fair warning to “make sure you’re looking slowly / before you fall into your Swoon.” Perhaps this warning seeks to prepare listeners for the Pickups’ contorted interpretation of rock music.

The Pickups make good use of chilling string screeches alongside distorted guitar chords to perfectly complement Aubert’s near growling at the end of “The Royal We.” As the song’s intensity builds, Aubert’s vocals swagger between ag-

gressive screams and docile whippers, showcasing his ability to quickly transition to meet the precise mood at any moment of the song.

“Substitution” and “Catch & Release” are the least aggressive tunes with clear elements of dream pop and a more-nuanced use of distorted guitar. While this laid-back version of the Pickups suits the band well, Aubert continues sounding hostile and remotely sarcastic. In fact, Aubert’s nasally and often high-pitched vocals continue to draw comparisons to the Smashing Pumpkins’ Billy Corgan.

It wouldn’t hurt the Silversun Pickups to adopt catchier melodies or more accessible hooks. While the Pickups performs their craft well, the members get so caught up in the climactic jam sessions that other aspects of songs go by the wayside. The band’s first released single, “Panic Switch,” lacks any discernable melody aside from the chorus. The Pickups seem to prefer diving head first into lush, loud layers; this begs the question of how much, if any, of a preface to a jam-out is really needed.

Unfortunately, “Swoon” sounds ironically formulaic considering how the band tries to defy conventions of mainstream rock. Songs generally start with a simple repetitive melody, incorporate lots of fuzzy guitar, build to a static-laden raucous climax and then suddenly drop off for the denouement.

While not a bad strategy, it causes “Swoon” to lack the significant emotive response that its title implies. Perhaps had the Pickups wanted listeners to truly lose themselves in the music, there songs would provide something more engaging to transition into.



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